

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

DATE DISTR. 16 August 1950

SUBJECT Twenty-Fifth Conference of the SED
Executive Board on 14 and 15 March
1950

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE
ACQUIRED [REDACTED] 25X1C

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF
INFO 25X1X

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

1. At the 25th conference of the SED Party Executive Board Minister Heinrich Rau reading from a report by the Politbureau discussed Communist aims and methods. Rau emphasized that the dismantlings at Watenstedt-Salzgitter must be exploited by propaganda means for strengthening the National Front in Western Germany. It was pointed out in the report that the incidents at Watenstedt-Salzgitter were an important starting point for the activities of the National Front in the Western Zones. The mission of the Communist Party and the National Front must be to establish a united front with the mass of the Social-Democratic voters, thereby bringing them to oppose their party leadership. It is to be kept in mind that this rift may be deepened by emphasizing the close connections between the Social-Democratic Party leadership and the British authorities. Large-scale actions of solidarity by Soviet Zone enterprises are designed to spread the influence of the German Democratic Republic among the German people in the west. Along these lines orders for Western Zone enterprises may contribute considerably. The chief aim of the entire campaign must be to inculcate in the mind of the Western German population the conviction that the German Democratic Republic speaks for all Germany.
2. Rau further stated that in this respect it was of importance to concentrate propaganda efforts. It is a mistake to attack British and French as well as US occupation policies when the main attack should be directed specifically against the Americans. Rau then called attention to the action program drawn up by Max Reimann for the 15th conference of the Communist Party Executive Board. This program was in complete agreement with the line of the National Front. However, special emphasis should be laid on the fact that the activities of the National Front in Western Germany should be centered on the peace drive.

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Rau gave this as the reason why the National Front Committees are called Peace Committees.

3. The undeniable success of Anti-Communist propaganda was admitted by Rau. This propaganda is being pursued effectively against the German Democratic Republic from Western Berlin. For this reason it is necessary to build up the SED party apparatus at an increased rate; for such a program special training courses are indispensable. Rau also stated that stricter security measures must be taken to prevent the leakage of plans made at conferences of high party functionaries. It is particularly important that the radio and press in the German Democratic Republic be used more effectively as weapons in the fight against enemy propaganda. Rau finally read a critical report, apparently originating from Soviet sources, on the training work conducted by the party. This report was directed against both Anton Ackermann, SED member, serving as secretary of state, and Stefan Heymann, also an SED member. In this report it was pointed out that the ideological vagueness regarding the question of the Oder-Neisse line and the attitude toward the U.S.S.R., which was conspicuous during the last party elections, had not yet been fully overcome. In the Einheit magazine, the central theoretical organ of the party, one could still find ideas reminiscent of the line of German Socialism previously pursued by Anton Ackermann. Accordingly Klaus Zwilling, the editor in chief of the Einheit magazine, was severely criticized. The Marx-Engels-Lenin Institute was similarly reproached. In conclusion brief mention was made of the growth of sectarianism within the SED.

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